



FIELD OF THE INVENTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] One way to provide a de-tensioning structure is to mold a port of the housing having opposing resilient fingers defining a narrow slit which unidirectionally resists passage of an electrical cable through the port, the fingers permit the insertion of the cable into the housing but resist movement in the opposite direction such as may occur if the cable were pulled at some point outside of the housing.

2

[illegible]

[0005] Where housings are designed to receive and contain conventional circuit breakers, it is typical to use in combination with said housing a busbar, usually in the form of an extruded aluminum strip having a plurality of spaced, parallel stabs projecting therefrom. Typically such a busbar is made by creating a long aluminum extrusion having the desired cross section and cutting the extrusion into short, identical pieces. Such a process of manufacture is expensive in that it requires the creation of an extrusion die, the purchase of extrusion presses, and requires significant hand labor to carry out the various operations involved in the manufacturing process.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0006] A first aspect of this invention is the creation and provision of an improved housing for electrical devices having a non-integral; i.e., separately formed electrical cable outlet port member which provides the desired de-tensioning characteristic but which, because it is formed separately from the housing, can be economically and quickly replaced if broken during the installation or servicing procedures.

[0007] The non-integral outlet port member and its association with the housing can take any of several shapes and configurations, two of which are disclosed in detail in this document. In one form, an essentially rectangular member is screwed or snapped to a rear panel of the housing. In another form, the member is configured so as to slide into an opening in a side panel of the housing and be retained by a separate cover.

[0008] Another aspect of the invention is the provision of an inexpensive, easily formed busbar for mounting within an electrical device housing to receive a plurality of conventional circuit breakers and make electrical connections therewith. The improved busbar can be manufactured by creating an inexpensive stamping and thereafter bending portions of the stamping to produce the plurality of spaced, parallel stabs. In the configuration disclosed herein, the spacing between the stabs is independent of the height of the stabs.

[0009] Other objects, advantages and applications of the present invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art when the following description of the best mode contemplated for practicing the invention is read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

FILED TO TESTED

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